38.

A TRUE

ACCOUNT

Of the Diſcovering and Apprehending OF

Count Conningſmark;

Together with the Place and Manner of his being Taken.

MUrder is a Crime that ſeldom goes long unpuniſhed; and the Murtherers, in what deſguiſes ſoever they lurk, ſeldom or never eſcape the Purſuit of Juſtice. But of the numerous Murders this Age hath produced, Divine Providence hath not been more quick in the Diſcovery of any, than this of the Worthy and much-lamented Mr. Thynn: *for it's a thing almoſt incredible, that the three perſons who committed that Inhumane and Unmanly Murder were not ſeen by any one perſon, ſo as to be known again, that yet they ſhould be all taken the next morning; and that the Count, notwithſtanding his diſguiſes, in a week was alſo taken. The manner was as follows.*

On Sunday the 19th of this preſent *February*, one of the deceaſed Eſquire's Gentlemen, Mr. *Gibbon*, ſervant to his Grace the Duke of *Monmouth*, and one of his Royal Highneſſes Watermen, being at *Graveſend* to enquire after any Strangers that might be about that Town, and as they were going over the Bridge in the Evening they meet with Count *CONNINGSMARK* very much diſguiſed: for being a very gentile perſon wearing his own hair, which is of a curious Light colour, he

he had now put himſelf into a very meen kind of a Riding Garb, and a very black Perriwig; but notwithſtanding this diſhonourable Diſguiſe, ſome of the Gentlemen preſently knew him and ſeized upon him, and this Morning brought him to *Whitehal* in order to his being Examined by the King and Council. To ſome Gentlemen that have talked with him he confidently denies his being any way concerned in Mr. *Thynn's* Murder, and tells many ſtrange and ridiculous ſtories concerning his being private in Town ſome time before the Murder, and of his going diſguiſed out of Town ſo ſoon as the Murder was perpetrated. It is ſaid that when they met him upon the Bridge at *Graveſend* he wore not his Sword by his ſide, but carried it in his hand, and that upon their laying hold of him he dropt his Sword out of his hand. Whether this Accident proceeded from his Guilt or not, we muſt leave time to determine. When he was brought to *Whitehal* he was carried into a Room in *Scotland*-yard, whither there flocked abundance of People to ſee him; whereupon his Majeſty was pleaſed to ſend order that the Gates of *Scotland*-yard might be ſhut, to prevent the too great concourſe of people. He came not to *Whitehal* in the Diſguiſe wherein he was taken, but in a very brisk gentile Garb, and his own Hair.

From the ſpeedy Diſcovery of the Contrivers and Actors of this baſe and cowardly Murther, we may learn, that Murder is one of the greateſt and moſt abominable Crimes in the ſight of God, and cries more than any other ſin for a ſpeedy Vengeance to be poured down upon the heads of thoſe common Enemies of Humane Society: and I think all men may and ought to learn Loyalty and Love to the Kings Majeſty, who hath concerned himſelf ſo much, and been ſo vigilant in the Diſcovering and Examining thoſe Murtherers, that Hiſtory will ſcarce afford us a like Example; and 'tis not to be queſtioned, but he will be as ſevere in their Puniſhment, as he hath been concerned for their Diſcovery.

London: Printed for *R. Baldwin* in the *Old-baily*. 1682.

135142

UMI